

12 APR 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commissioner, Federal Supply
Service
General Services Administration

SUBJECT : Agency Position Concerning Single
Versus Multiple Award for Security
Containers

1. At a 24 October 1973 meeting of the Inter-agency Committee on Security Equipment, this Agency took a position favoring multiple award for procurement of security containers. On 1 April 1974, this Agency received a request from the Committee chairman for a written confirmation of this position. Such is being provided herein.

2. Our experience has shown that the multiple award procedure encourages manufacturer competition and induces product versatility and higher quality. As a consequence it increases customer flexibility in the use of containers.

3. A program involving a single procurement award would eliminate this flexibility. Inasmuch as there is no commercial market for the higher priced government approved security containers, a number of current manufacturers have indicated that, in the absence of a government contract, it would not be economically feasible for them to continue to produce the containers and related parts.

4. It is our considered judgment that multiple award procurement is necessary for the continued effective operation of the security equipment programs of this Agency and the other member agencies of the Interagency Advisory Committee on Security Equipment. Accordingly, we strongly endorse the unanimous recommendation, by the Committee members on 24 October 1973, that the multiple award contract for approved security containers be continued.

Charles W. Lane
Director of Security

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